Support Vector Machines

Nipun Batra

IIT Gandhinagar

July 30, 2025

Non-Linearly Separable Data

Data not separate in \mathbb{R}

Can we still use SVM?

Yes!

How? Project data to a higher dimensional space.

Projection/Transformation Function

$$\phi: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^D$$

where, d = original dimension D = new dimension In our example:

$$d = 1; D = 2$$

Linear SVM:

Maximize

$$L(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_j \alpha_j y_j \overline{x_i}.\overline{x_j}$$

such that constriants are satisfied.

Transformation (
$$\phi$$
)

$$L(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \phi(\overline{x_i}).\phi(\overline{x_j})$$

Steps

1. Compute $\phi(x)$ for each point

$$\phi: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^D$$

Q. If D >> dBoth steps are expensive!

Steps

1. Compute $\phi(x)$ for each point

$$\phi: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^D$$

- 2. Computer dot products over \mathbb{R}^d space
 - Q. If D >> dBoth steps are expensive!

Kernel Trick